

1. Anon, *Amis amis, trop me laissez en estrange païs!*, refrain song (13th century)

Text edited and translated by Geneviève Young from Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, fr. 12483, folio 246

*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

I L'ame qui quiert Dieu de veraie entente
souvent se plaint et forment se demente.
Et [s]on ami, cui venue est trop lente
va regretant que ne li atalente.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

The soul who seeks God with a wholeness of spirit
often laments and grieves sharply; she weeps that
she doesn't please her beloved, whose progress is
too slow.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

II Trop me laissez [ci] vous longuement querre;
en ciel regnés et en mer et en terre.
Enclose sui en cest cors qui me serre,
de ceste char qui souvent me fait guerre.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

You leave me here too long, seeking you. You reign
in the sky, over the sea, and on earth. I am trapped
in this body that presses me, in this flesh that makes
war on me time and again.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

III Dieus, donnez moy ce que mes cuers desirre,
pour cui languis, pour cui sui a martire!
Jhesucrist est mes amis e mon sire,
li biaux, li bons, plus que nul ne scet dire.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs*

God, grant me that which my heart desires, over
which I languish, that which torments me! Jesus
Christ is my beloved and my lord; he is handsome
and good, more so than anyone could put into
words.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

IV Mon createur, car je sui sa faiture,
qui me nourrit et de tout me procure,
mes amis est, quar en moy mist tel cure
que par amour se joint a ma nature.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

My creator (for I am of his making) nourishes me
and is my advocate in all things. He is my beloved,
for he has given me such attention and, by his love,
joins himself to me.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

V Il m'apela, ains que je l'apelasse;
si me requist, ains qu'aprez lui alasse.
Or est bien drois qu'en lui querre me lasse,
si que cest mont pour lui trouver trespasse.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

He called me before ever I called him. He sought
me before I pursued him. Now, it is only right that I
exhaust myself in seeking him, that I might pass
beyond this world to find him.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

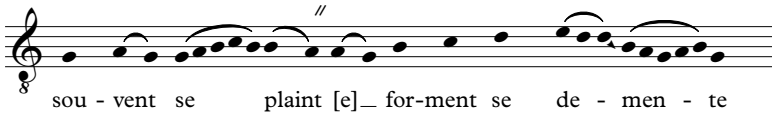
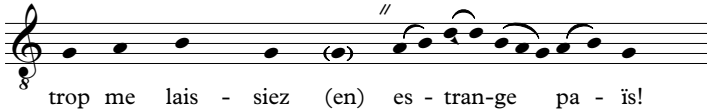
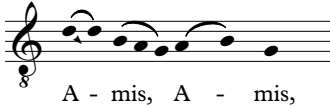
VI Et quant j'avray passé ceste bruïne,
ou li jour faut et le vespre decline,
cilz qui les cuers alume e enlumine
se moustrera; lors avray joie fine.
*Amis, amis,
trop me laissez en estrange païs!*

And when I have passed through this fog where the
day ends and night draws in, he who lights and
inspires hearts will show himself; then I will have
perfect joy.
*Beloved, beloved,
you leave me too long in this strange land.*

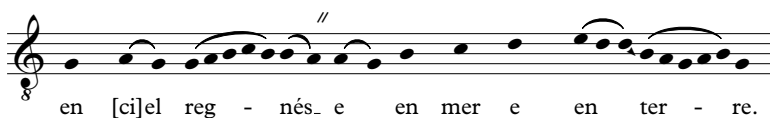
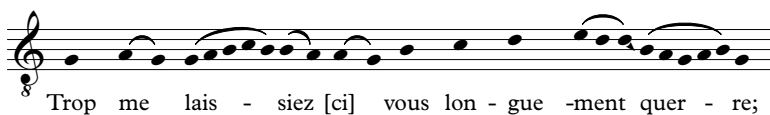
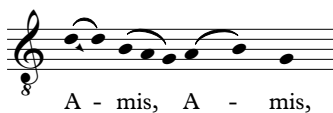
Anonymous

Amis, Amis, trop me laissez en estrange país [RS 747]

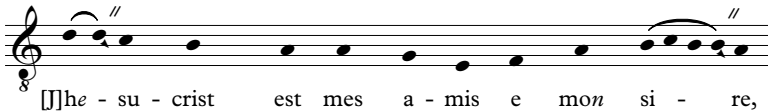
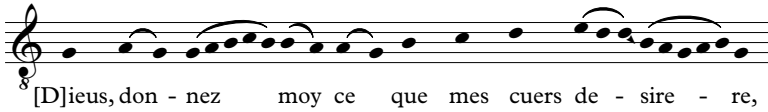
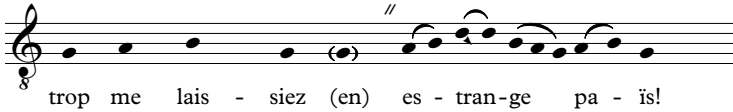
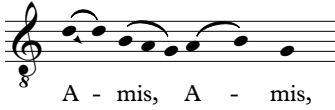
BNF, français 12483, 264r-v (music & text)



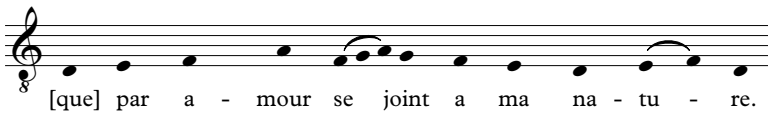
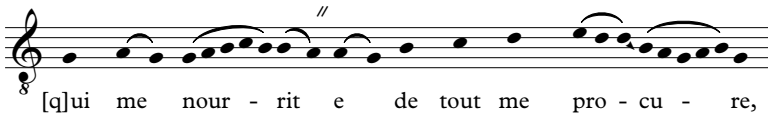
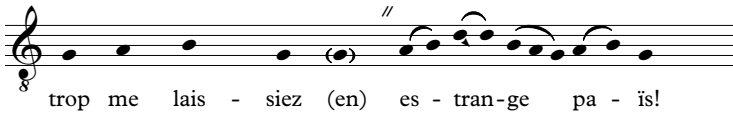
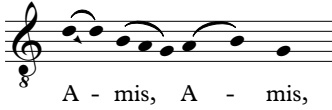
Stanza 2



Stanza 3



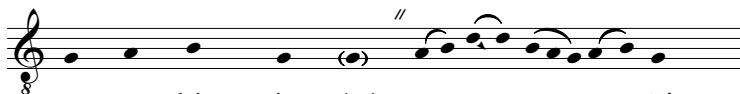
Stanza 4



Stanza 5



A - mis, A - mis,



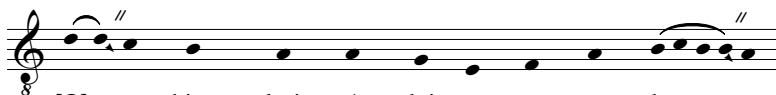
trop me lais - siez (en) es - tran - ge pa - ïs!



[I]l m'a pe - la, ains que je l'a - pe - las - se;



[s]i me re - quest, ains qu'ap-rez lui a - las - se.



[O]r_ est bien drois qu'en lui quer-re me las - se,



[s]i que cest mont pour lui trou-ver tres - pas - se.

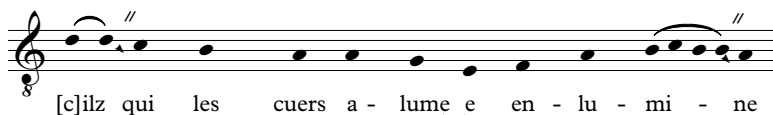
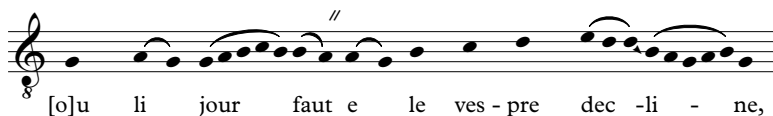


A - mis, A - mis,



trop me lais - siez en es - tran - ge pa - ïs!

Stanza 6



Anonymous,

Amis, amis, trop me laissez en estrange païs [RS 747]

Paris, BNF français 12483, 264r-v (music & text)

Collaborative performance script
(singers & scholars)

Format and music: Emma Dillon
Text and translation: Geneviève Young

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July, 2024

Stanza 1

REFRAIN

A-mis, amis,



trop me lais-siez en es-trange païs!



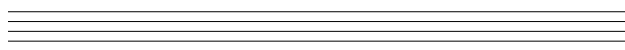
Beloved, beloved, you leave me too long in this strange land.

1.

L'a-me qui quiert Dieu de ve-raie en-ten-te



The soul who seeks God with a wholeness of spirit

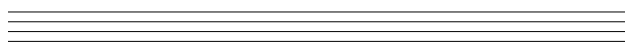


2.

sou-vent se plaint e for-ment se de-men-te



often laments and grieves sharply;

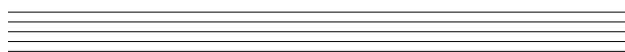


3.

e son a-mi cui ve-nue est trop len-te,



and for her beloved, whose progress is too slow,

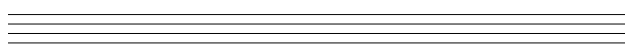


4.

va reg-re-tant que ne li a-ta-len-te.



she weeps that she does not please him.



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis...

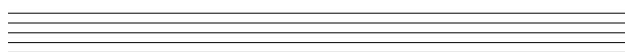
Beloved, beloved...



Stanza 2

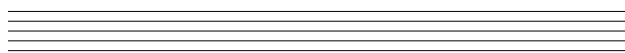
1. **Trop me lais-iez ci vous lon-gue-ment quer-re;**

You leave me here too long, seeking you.



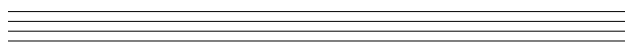
2. **en ciel reg-nés e en mer e en ter-re.**

You reign in the sky, over the sea and on earth.



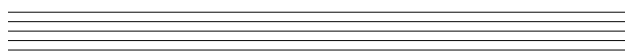
3. **En-clo-se sui en cest cors qui me ser-re,**

I am trapped in this body that presses me,



4. **de ces-te char qui sou-vent me fait guer-re.**

in this flesh that often makes war on me time and again.



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis, trop me lais-siez en es-tran-ge pa-ïs!

Beloved, beloved...



Stanza 3

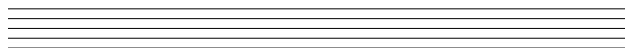
1. **Dieus, don-nez moy ce que mes cuers de-sir-re**

God, grant me that which my heart desires,



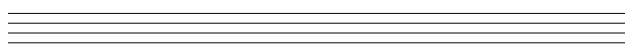
2. **pour cui lan-guis, pour cui sui a mar-ti-re!**

over which I languish, that which torments me!



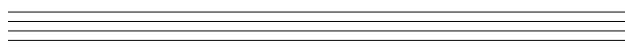
3. **Jhe-su-crist est mes a-mis e mon si-re,**

Jesus Christ is my beloved and my lord ;



4. **li biaux li bons plus que nul ne scet di-re.**

he is handsome, and good, more than anyone can put into words.



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis...

Beloved, Beloved...

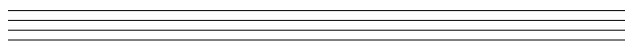


Stanza 4

1.

Mon cre-a-teur, quar je sui sa fai-tu-re,

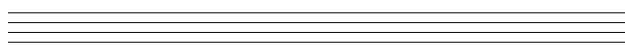
My creator – for I am of his making –



2.

qui me nour-rit e de tout me pro-cu-re,

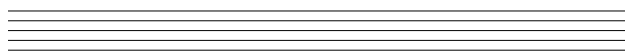
nourishes me and is my advocate in all things,



3.

mes a-mis est, quar en moy mist tel cu-re

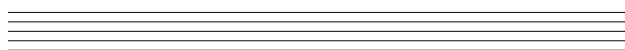
He is my beloved, for he has given me such attention



4.

que par a-mour se joint a ma na-tu-re.

and, by his love, joins himself to me.



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis...

Beloved, beloved...

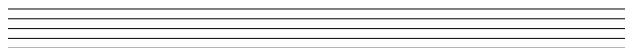


Stanza 5

1.

Il m'a-pe-la, ains que je l'a-pe-las-se;

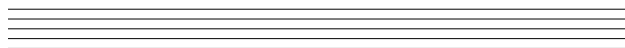
He called me before ever I called him;



2.

si me re-quist, ains qu'-ap-rez lui a-las-se.

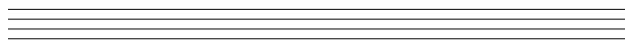
he sought me before I pursued him.



3.

Or est bien drois qu'en lui quer-re me las-se

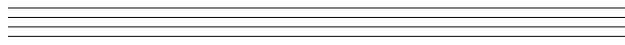
Now, it is only right that I exhaust myself in seeking him,



4.

si que cest mont pour lui tro-ver tres-pas-se.

That I might pass beyond this world t find him..



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis...

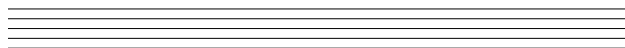
Beloved, beloved...



Stanza 6

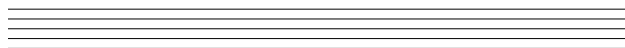
1. **Et quant j'av-ray pas-sé ces-te bru-ï-ne,**

And when I will have passed through this fog



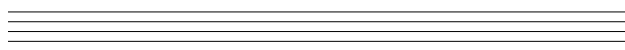
2. **ou li jour faut e le ves-pre dec-li-ne,**

where the day ends and night draws in,



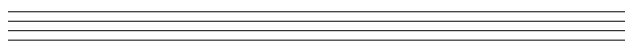
3. **cilz qui les cuers a-lu-me e en-lu-mi-ne**

he who lights and inspires hearts



4. **se mous-tre-ra; lors av-ray joi-e fi-ne.**

will show himself; then I will have perfect joy.



REFRAIN

A-mis, a-mis...

Beloved, beloved...

